

# Memo

**To:** John Gill and Vem Hughes  
**From:** David Griffiths  
**CC:** Anthony Gill  
**Date:** 01/01/97  
**Re:** Terms of Reference All

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## **Membership Participation**

**(Draft)**

The Secretary was asked to provide information on which co-operatives had participated in what activities and used which services.

Members attendance at AGM's 1993-1998

Members attendance at 1995 community co-op seminar

Members attendance at 1994 Pamell seminar

Members who registered for 1996 community co-op seminar

Co-ops using insurance service at 12 March 1999

Number of books purchased by members and value at 12 March 1999

Co-operatives who have requested which information sheets & number to 28/2/99

Members who have engaged consultant to update rules at 28/2/99

Co-ops attendance at 1997 new opportunities seminar

Members seeking rules advice inc model rules & checklist at 28/2/99

Members seeking phone advice & how often for period 1/7/97 – 28/2/99

Co-operatives attendance at 1997 legislation seminars

Members who completed 1997/98 survey

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Co-ops who participated in telephone savings scheme

Co-op contributors to VCN – February 1994 – Autumn 1998

Members who subscribe to National Co-op Update

The information was provided promptly and was considered by the Secretary to be within the Consultancy Agreement and, therefore, not subject to an additional fee payment.

The activities/services were then listed on a spreadsheet with the names of all member co-operatives to enable us to map activity participation and service usage.

Members were given a score of 1 for participating in or using a service. The total possible score is 20.

A small group of **four** co-operatives scored between **10 and 14**:

<b>Urban Camp</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>\$250</b>
<b>Co-operative Energy</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>CPS</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$350</b>
<b>Consolidated HI</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>\$1500</b>

Another group of **13** co-operatives scored between **8 and 9**:

<b>Genetics</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>\$2500</b>
<b>HI Maffra</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>\$750</b>
<b>Gippsland Tip</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<b>South Gippsland AB</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Southern Energy</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>Waverley Trading</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$350</b>
<b>Wholefoods</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$250</b>
<b>YCW Co-operative</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Abalone Fishermen's</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$2500</b>
<b>Euroa</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$350</b>
<b>Rupnorth</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$150</b>

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<b>Rural Industries</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>South Barwon</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$150</b>

The statistics illustrate an issue raised by Co-operative Energy Ltd – whether subscription levels should recognise the differential participation of members.

Co-operative participation varies significantly and a specific example of this is attendance at the AGM. The four AGMs between 1995-98 have been critically supported by the consistent attendance of only 9 co-operatives:

<b>Name of Co-op</b>	<b>No of AGMs attended</b>	<b>Subscription level</b>
<b>Co-operative Energy</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>CPS</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$350</b>
<b>VPC</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$3700</b>
<b>YCW</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Urban Camp</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$250</b>
<b>Consolidated HI</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$1500</b>
<b>Genetics Australia</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$2500</b>
<b>Southern Energy</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>Wholefoods</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$250</b>

Other members have attended one or two or no AGM.

**Should there be formal recognition of the differential participation of members. This could be independent of subscription levels.**